

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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31 August 1978

ORAL QUESTION (O-41/78)

DOCUMENT 284/78

with debate, pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure,  
by Mr FELLERMAIER, Mr DANKERT and Mr SIEGLERSCHMIDT  
on behalf of the Socialist Group  
to the Commission of the European Communities

Subject: Standardization of weapons legislation

For some time firearms used to commit acts of violence in the Member States of the European Community have often been illegally imported from other Member States or even from outside the Community.

The acquisition of firearms is subject to differing legal requirements in the Member States, and it is possible for foreigners to acquire firearms practically without formality on condition that they export them immediately. Harmonization is therefore urgently needed. This is the aim of the European Convention on the control of the acquisition and possession of firearms by individuals presented for signing by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 28 June 1978.

We therefore ask the Commission:

1. Does the Commission feel that the European Convention on the control of the acquisition and possession of firearms by individuals should be signed and ratified at an early date in order to remedy the unsatisfactory situation referred to above?
2. Does the Commission agree that the diversity of legislation on weapons described above has a direct and unfavourable effect on the functioning of the common market in firearms?
3. What measures in addition to the European Convention does the Commission consider necessary and feasible?